## **Minutes**

## Broadband Committee January 13, 2021 at 3 PM Zoom Meeting East Longmeadow, Massachusetts 01028

Members Present: Chair Donald Maki, Donald Anderson, Connor O'Shea, Bruce Adams

**Members Absent:** Ryan Quimby **Others Present:** Mary McNally

The meeting was opened at 3:05 PM.

**Motion:** Mr. Anderson moved to approve the December 2, 2020 minutes. Mr. O'Shea seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. O'Shea - aye; Mr. Anderson - aye; Mr. Maki - aye.

Mr. O'Shea provided an update on the question he raised at the last meeting regarding the Xfinity data caps. The data caps that Comcast plans to implement in Massachusetts will result in a 96% reduction in the amount of data customers can consume in a month. Prior to the data cap, customers could theoretically consume 30.9 TB per month, assuming they had 100 Mbps download speed. With the data cap, customers can now only consume 1.2 TB without paying additional overage fees.

Mr. Maki asked the committee for feedback on the *TV Options* video that was prepared before publishing it to the public. The committee and the town manager felt the video was good to publish as-is.

Mr. O'Shea mentioned that he asked PVPC in the Master Plan Committee meeting to research data regarding broadband distribution, subscribers, and providers in town.

Mr. Maki moved to the topic of the Charter cable license renewal. Ms. McNally felt this was the priority task for the committee to complete before the budget season is fully underway.

Mr. Maki noted that the draft license was provided by Charter and he put section 13 in as a comment, which was subsequently incorporated into the document by someone at Charter. Mr. Anderson noticed that the formatting and numbering doesn't line up in section 13, as it restarts numbering with 1.2 and continues. He also noticed some spelling errors. Ms. McNally suggested that we get an updated document from Charter with the formatting, numbering, and spelling errors corrected for us to review.

Mr. O'Shea noticed that the last license had the performance bond at \$20,000 while the new template had \$10,000. He also noted that the references to the Board of Selectmen should be changed to Town Manager.

Mr. Maki explained the reasoning for wanting to go with a five year license instead of a ten year license is to give the town flexibility as the cable landscape changes quickly over the coming years in the event that the town needs to pivot in another direction.

Mr. Adams joined the meeting in progress.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 10, 2021 at 3 PM.

**Motion:** Mr. O'Shea moved to adjourn. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion.. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. O'Shea - aye; Mr. Anderson - aye; Mr. Adams - aye; Mr. Maki - aye.

Respectfully submitted, Connor O'Shea